

**DRIVEN TOWARDS DEATH – A PSYCHOANALYSIS
APPROACH IN INTERPRETING THE NOVEL KOKORO BY
NATSUMI SOSEKI**

PROJECT PAPER

By

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ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM

FACULTY OF LETTERS AND LANGUAGES

UNIVERSITAS KRISTEN INDONESIA

JAKARTA

2023

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**Filed as the requirement to attain a Bachelor of Arts (S.S) in English
Literature Study Program, Faculty of Letters and Languages, Universitas
Kristen Indonesia**

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2023



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PREFACE

Praise and gratitude to God Almighty for the blessings and grace, that the author is finally able to complete the final project with the title “DRIVEN TOWARDS DEATH – A PSYCHOANALYSIS APPROACH IN INTERPRETING THE NOVEL KOKORO BY NATSUMI SOSEKI”.

This research analysis is made for the author’s final project, as well as the requirement to graduate and to attain the bachelor degree (S.S) in English Literature study program, Faculty of Letters and Languages, Universitas Kristen Indonesia (FSB UKI).

During the process of writing this final project, the writer is aware of the difficulties and obstacles that must be overcome, the struggles that come along with them and the price that must be paid to reach this point. Despite all that, the author is also fully aware of the shortcomings of this final project, which are evidenced by the limitations of the author's abilities. However, thanks to the help and support from various parties, the author was finally able to finish this final project properly.

While studying at UKI, the author has gained lots of knowledge and lessons that were useful for the author's life and insight. Apart from that, the author has also had many unforgettable experiences, which have made the author's days during college irreplaceable and memorable.

On this occasion, the author would like to give his utmost gratitude for all the help and support the author has received throughout the years of studying in UKI. The author will now address all the significant figures:

1. To both of my parents, with their undying love and affections. They have been extremely patient accompanying the author in the process. The author also extends this thanks to his loving siblings.

2. Dr. Dhaniswara K. Hardjono, S.H, M.H., M.B.A. as the rector of Universitas Kristen Indonesia.
3. Susanne Susanne A.H. Sitohang, S.S., M.A., as the dean of Faculty of Letters and Languages, and Jannes Freddy Pardede, S.S., M.Hum., as the vice dean of Faculty of Letters and Languages. The author will forever be indebted to her good deeds.
4. Mike Wijaya Saragih, S.S., M.Hum., as the head of English Literature study program as well as the advisor of the author for this final project. Without her patience and understanding virtues, the author would not have made it this far.
5. All lecturers and staffs from Faculty of Letters and Languages, Universitas Kristen Indonesia.
6. To all my seniors from '13, '14, '15, my friends in '16, and my juniors in '17, '18 and '19. Honourable mentions to Alex Edgar, Yoshi Tobing, Hengky Hartono, Aprillia Grace, the late Ojahan, Edwardus Xaverius, Elda Suryani, Catherine Monica, Dea Veronika, the late Erika, Margaretha Ely Vera, and the late Utet Lora Elena.
7. To the one who has been there from the start of this project until the end, Dhita Veronica Marpaung.
8. To everyone else who are unable to be written down one by one, who have helped the author, directly or indirectly.

It is the author greatest wish for this final project to be beneficial, and to contribute something for the readers, especially in any relevance of the subject of the study. Once again, the author gives his utmost gratitude to all the people involved. God bless.

Jakarta, February 8 2023

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian tugas akhir ini bertujuan untuk mengajukan interpretasi penulis, bahwa karakter Sensei dalam novel “Kokoro” karya Natsume Soseki, cocok dalam kategori individu yang terdorong kepada kematian. Melalui pendekatan psikoanalisis Sigmund Freud, penulis diharapkan dapat membuktikan interpretasi penulis melalui analisa yang terpadu. Unsur psikoanalisis yang terdapat dalam novel tersebut meliputi insting, struktur kepribadian dan *death drive*. Insting manusia menurut Freud terbagi menjadi dua: insting hidup (life instinct) dan insting mati (death instinct). Untuk struktur kepribadian Freud, yang akan dibahas dalam tugas akhir ini adalah id, ego, dan superego. Id, ego, dan superego ini akan menjadi pokok bahasan bagaimana karakter Sensei masuk dalam kategori individu yang terdorong kepada kematian. Metode yang digunakan dalam menjawab rumusan masalah yaitu dengan menggunakan *close reading*, fokalisasi, dan pengumpulan data. Novel “Kokoro” menceritakan karakter Aku dan Sensei. Dalam tugas akhir ini, focus cerita dalam novel tersebut akan terpaku pada Sensei. Sensei yang menyimpan rahasia tentang masa lalunya yang kelam, bahkan dari istrinya sekalipun, akhirnya memutuskan untuk terbuka terhadap Aku. Akibat satu dan lain hal, Sensei terpaksa menceritakannya melalui surat. Di akhir isi surat tersebut, Sensei menyatakan bahwa dia sudah bunuh diri ketika Aku selesai membaca suratnya tersebut, yang juga merupakan surat kematian berisi kesan dan pesan dari Sensei. Hasil penelitian tugas akhir ini ialah, dalam novel “Kokoro”, karakter Sensei merupakan individu yang: 1) memiliki insting hidup dan insting kematian dalam kurun waktu yang berbeda, 2) memiliki id, ego, dan superego yang menjadi bukti bahwa Sensei memiliki ciri terdorong kepada kematian.

Kata kunci: hasrat kematian, id, ego, superego

ABSTRACT

This final project aims to attest the author's interpretation that Sensei's character in the novel "Kokoro" by Natsume Soseki, fits into the category of individuals who are driven to death. Through Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic approach, the writer is expected to prove his interpretation through an integrated analysis. Psychoanalytic elements contained in the novel include instincts, structure of personality and death drive. According to Freud, human instincts are divided into two: life instincts and death instincts. In Freud's structure of personality, the discussed topic will be focused on the id, ego, and superego. Id, ego, and superego will be the subject of how Sensei's character falls into the category of individuals who are driven to death. The method used in answering the research problems is by using close reading, focalization, and data collection. The novel "Kokoro" tells the characters of I and Sensei. I and Sensei are two people met just by chance, unrelated to each other. This final project focuses on Sensei's part where he tells his past to I. At the end of the contents of the letter, Sensei stated that he had committed suicide. The letter turns out to be Sensei's testament. The results of this final project are, in the novel "Kokoro", Sensei's character is an individual who: 1) has a life instinct and a death instinct in different periods of time, 2) has an id, ego, and superego which is proof that Sensei has the trait of being driven to death.

Keywords: death drive, id, ego, superego